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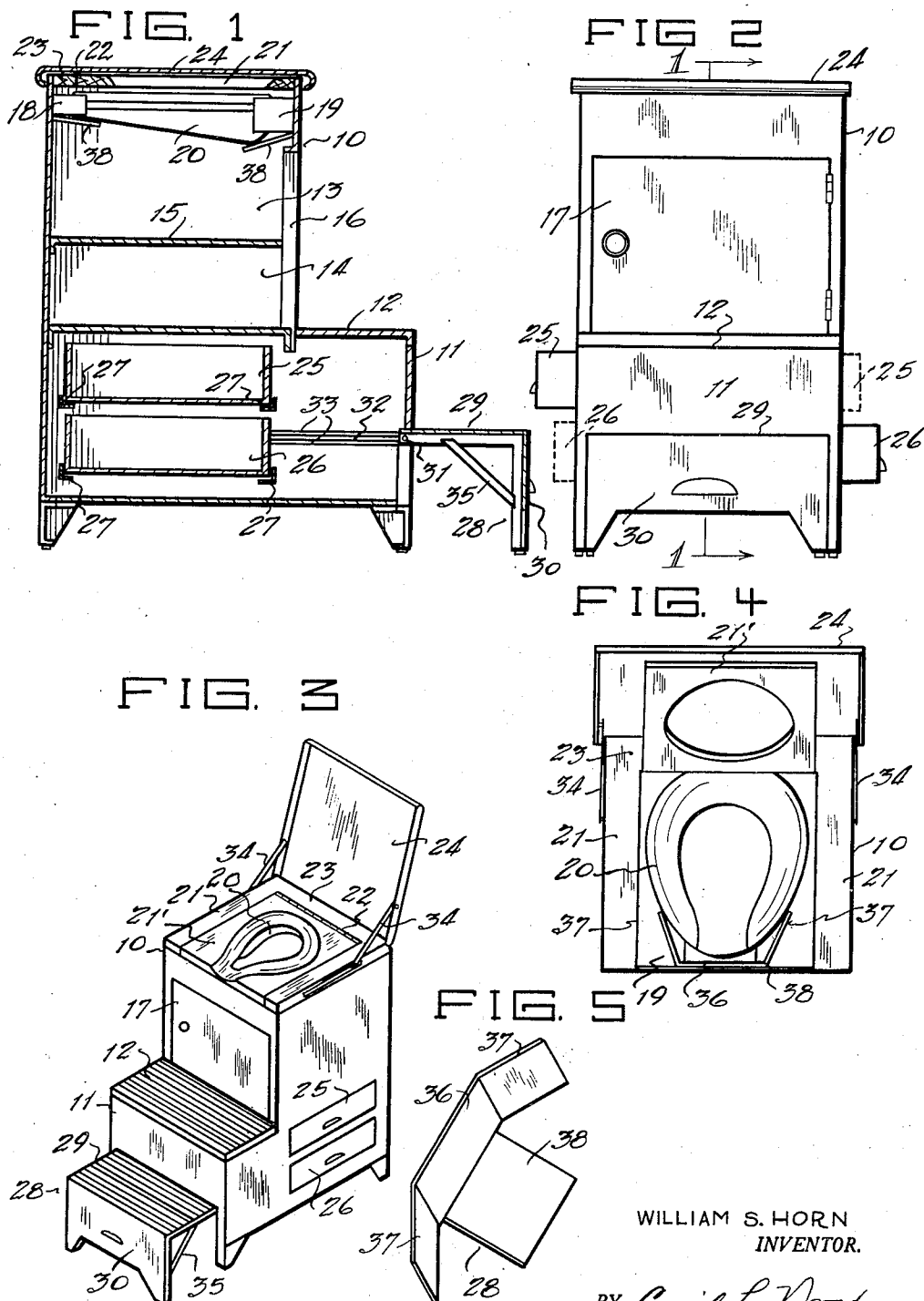
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2,495,374

HOSPITAL CABINET-COMMODE

Filed April 14, 1949

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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FIG. 6

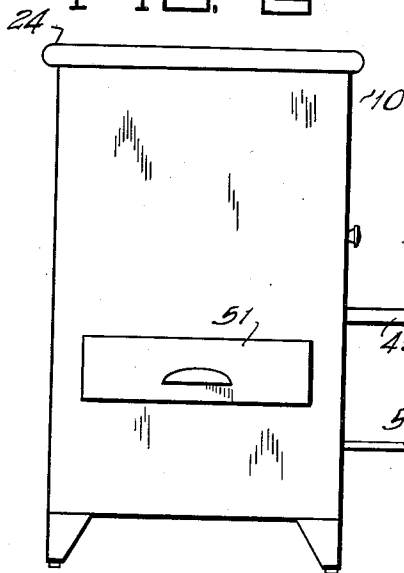


FIG. 7

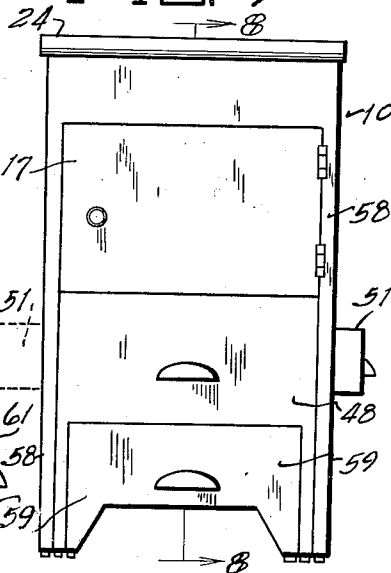
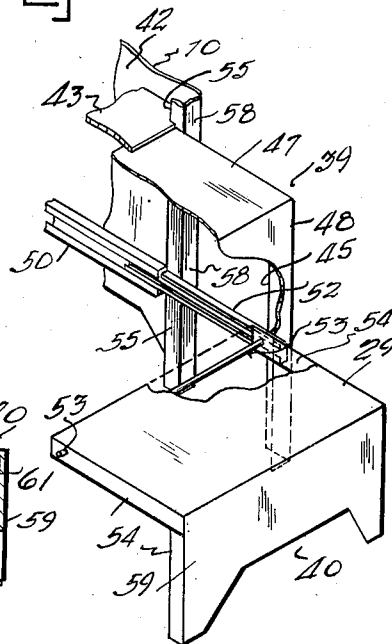
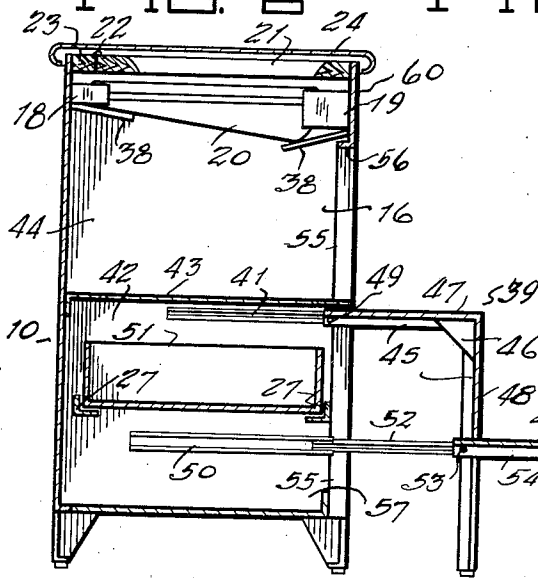


FIG. 8

FIG. 9



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HOSPITAL CABINET-COMMODE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 4—135)

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This invention relates to hospital equipment, and it has particular reference to a device which combines a commode of hospital-bed-height and bedside table-cabinet adapted to be utilized beside the bed of the patient in hospitals, and other institutions dedicated to the sick and invalid, and its principal object resides in the provision of a compact utilitarian cabinet having for its primary purpose the provision of means for operatively housing and supporting a bed pan, conventionally used in hospitals, and the like, while also affording a convenient bedside cabinet for storing various necessary sickroom articles, including personal items belonging to the patient, and also affording a convenient bed-height table to be utilized in the conventional manner.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a cabinet of the character described having formed therewith a convenient foot rest for the patient, when the device is used as a commode, disposed the proper distance below the top of the cabinet or seat of the commode, whereby the patient, when seated upon the open seat of the commode, may comfortably support his feet upon the foot rest, or utilize the same while transferring himself from the bed to the commode seat.

A still further object of the invention is that of providing a hospital-bed-height commode having its seat in the approximate plane with the top of the hospital bed, whereby the patient can more conveniently move from the bed to the seat of the commode, with a minimum of exertion, without standing or taking a step and with less possibility for injury when the patient is in a weakened condition.

The invention also contemplates the provision of a drawer, or a plurality thereof, in the cabinet which may be so arranged as to be opened from either side of the cabinet enabling the same to be used on either side of the bed, or on either end thereof, and providing a closure for the cabinet in its front above the foot rest where bed pans, emesis basins, wash basins, toilet tissue, and the like, may be conveniently stored and retained readily accessible.

An important object of the invention is that of providing a cabinet-commode in which is also embodied features of construction whereby an extensible step or ottoman can be concealed within the structure to be withdrawn for use, when desired, and affording a device in which both, the foot rest and the ottoman, may be collectively or individually disposed of within the cabinet so that, in appearance, there is no indi-

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cation of the presence of these members when they are in a closed position.

Broadly, the invention contemplates the provision of a convenient accessory for hospitals, and the like, wherein a hospital-bed-height commode is embodied in a utility cabinet which may also be utilized as a bedside table, thus embodying in one unit several highly useful and essential factors for bedside attendance of hospital patients, and affording a safe and convenient device for the patient's use unattended, and providing apparatus which is light and readily portable by hospital attendants with a minimum of effort.

While the foregoing objects are paramount, other and lesser objects will become manifest as the description proceeds, taken in connection with the appended drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the invention, on lines 1—1 of Figure 2, illustrating the bed pan supported in the top thereof, the foot rest, and the drawers, and showing the ottoman extended.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the invention, showing the drawers, their opposite operative positions being shown in dotted lines.

Figure 3 is a perspective view illustrating the invention in operative position, the top being raised to show the open seat providing the bedside commode and the ottoman extended.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the invention, illustrating the bed pan supported therein, the top and the open seat being hinged upwardly.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of one of the brackets for supporting the bed pan in the cabinet.

Figure 6 illustrates, in side elevation, a modification of the cabinet in which the foot rest, as well as the ottoman, is slidable thereinto.

Figure 7 is a front elevational view of the cabinet shown in Figure 6, the foot rest and ottoman being retracted.

Figure 8 is a vertical cross-sectional view of the modified cabinet, taken on lines 8—8 of Figure 7, showing the arrangement of slide channels for the retractable foot rest and ottoman, and

Figure 9 is a fragmentary perspective illustration of one of the extensible slides for the ottoman.

The invention, accordingly, comprises a cabinet 10 having an extended base portion 11 forwardly thereof providing a convenient step or foot support 12. The upper portion of the cabinet 10 is divided into compartments 13 and 14 by a shelf 15. It may be desirable to provide one or a plurality of shelves, such as the shelf 15 in

the upper portion of the cabinet 10 to form other compartments for whatever purpose these may be found convenient. The shelf 15, however, may be omitted, as in Figure 8. An opening 16 is provided in the front of the cabinet which is closed by a door 17, shown in Figures 2 and 3.

Above the opening 16 is provided a compartment in which supporting brackets 18 and 19 are arranged rearwardly and forwardly thereof, respectively, for supporting a conventional bed pan 20 in the manner illustrated in Figure 1. Immediately above the bed pan 20 is arranged a frame 21 having an open seat portion 21' which is hinged at 22 to the rear 23 of the frame, rearwardly of the cabinet 10, and may be raised to the position shown in Figure 4 to gain access to the bed pan 20 to remove or replace the same as required. The cabinet 10 is provided with a hinged top 24, shown closed in Figures 1 and 2, and hinged on its rearmost edge to be capable of being raised in the manner shown in Figures 3 and 4. The upper surface of the top 24 may be employed as a bedside table in the conventional manner and is preferably of metal, such as stainless steel, aluminum, or the like.

In one form of the invention the base portion 11 of the cabinet 10 has arranged therein a plurality of drawers 25 and 26 operatively supported on angular slides 27 and adapted to be opened from either side of the cabinet 10 in the manner shown in Figure 2. In this illustration it will be noted that the upper drawer 25 is shown extended from the left side of the cabinet, as viewed in the illustration, while the lower drawer 26 is extended from the right side, and dotted line illustrations of both drawers indicate that they may be extended from opposite sides of the cabinet 10, depending upon which side of the hospital bed the device is arranged. It is customary to position the cabinet at the head of the bed and fronting toward the foot thereof. Thus, by arranging the drawers 25 and 26 in the manner shown, the invention may be arranged on either side of the bed and fronting in either direction depending upon the position of the head of the bed.

Lending further to the compactness of the invention, in which are embodied most of the necessary elements included in the furnishings of a conventional hospital room, a foot stool or ottoman 28 is arranged within the extended portion 11 of the base of the cabinet 10 so that it may be capable of sliding forwardly to an operative position, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 3. The member 28 has a horizontal surface 29, providing a tread, and a depending riser 30 which, when the device is disposed in the base 11 of the cabinet 10, will be flush with the front wall thereof as apparent in Figure 2. The rearmost edge of the tread 29 is supported on a rod 31 which extends transversely across between the inner walls of the cabinet 10, in the base portion 11, and into slides or ways 32 formed between pairs of parallel rails 33 by which the foot stool 28 is guided into and out of the base portion 11 of the cabinet 10 as required.

Obviously, in its normal position, the member 28 may be disposed of by moving it into the cabinet 10 so that lesser space is required for the assembly when the use of this portion thereof is unnecessary. It is essential that the foot stool or ottoman 28 be firm and steady, and incapable of voluntary movement when a patient rises thereon to assist himself into bed or upon the commode. One of the primary purposes of the

member 28 is to aid the patient in getting into or out of bed, it being necessary only to utilize the step 12 in moving himself from the bed to the seat 21 covering the bed pan 20.

Suitable braces 34 are provided on each side of the top 24, slidably linking the same to the cabinet 10, as shown in Figure 3, to retain the top 24 in a substantially vertical position when open and the seat 21 and its hinged portion 21' are exposed. Proper bracing members 35 are also afforded for the stool 28. The supporting brackets 18 and 19 for the pan 20, while different in dimension, are identical in form and preferably consist of sheet metal strips 36 having end portions 37 bent at angles toward the front, as illustrated in Figure 5, and having integral plate portions 38 which extend forwardly and slightly downwardly affording supports for each end of the pan 20 in the manner illustrated in Figure 1. The wings or angular portions 37 serve to retain the pan against lateral displacement after the same has been arranged on the brackets 18 and 19 in the manner described and illustrated in Figure 1.

In Figures 6 to 9, inclusive, is illustrated a modified form of the invention in which the step 39, corresponding to the member 12 in the structures shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, is retractable or capable of sliding into the cabinet 10. The footstool or ottoman 40 is adapted to slide beneath the step or foot rest 39 and both members retracted into the cabinet 10 so that their presence is not apparent, as in Figure 7.

Figure 8 is a vertical cross-sectional illustration showing the arrangement of slides or channels 41 along the side walls 42 of the cabinet 10 below the horizontal partition 43 providing the bottom of the compartment 44, the shelf 15 having been omitted. The foot rest 39 may be formed of the same material as that of the cabinet 10 the edges being extended at right angles to provide flanges 45 for rigidity. Triangular braces 46 also aid in strengthening the foot rest 39, connecting the tread 47 with the riser 48, each end of the tread 47 being supported, at the rear edge thereof, by a rod 49, the ends of which extend into the channels 41 which are C-shaped in transverse section, in order to permit the member 39 to be pushed back into the cabinet 10.

Another pair of slides 50 are arranged below the drawer 51 in the lower portion of the cabinet 10 and are also C-shaped in transverse section to slidably receive a pair of links 52 longitudinally thereof connecting each end of the riser 48 of the foot rest 39 with the channel slides 50 so that the member 40 can slide into the cabinet 10 beneath the foot rest 39 and independently thereof. Thus, either or both of the members 39 and 40 can be disposed of within the cabinet 10 as desired.

The ottoman 40 is supported at its rear edge by a rod 53 which extends from end to end thereof, its ends extending through the flanges 54 of the tread 29 of the member 40 and into the links 52 which provide slides by which the ottoman can be retracted beneath the foot rest 39. This arrangement will also permit the ottoman 40 to be extended for use while the foot rest 39 is retracted into the cabinet 10. Thus, both of these members can be used or extended for use simultaneously or either used independently of the other, the retractability of both members affording an attractive bedside cabinet-table having no apparent suggestion of its other uses.

It is desirable, to provide a finished appearance for the cabinet 10, to form inwardly extended

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flanges 55 and 56 about the front opening 16 and the lower opening 57 into which the foot rest 39 and ottoman 40 are fitted. This provision will aid also in strengthening the structure without materially adding weight. The flanges 55 are formed vertically and at right angles to the relatively narrow facing 58 which frames the openings on each side and whose surfaces are flush with the door 17 and the risers 48 and 59, respectively, of the members 39 and 40 when these elements are closed. The horizontal flange 56 is formed at right angles with the header 60 which provides the front wall of the compartment in which the pan 20 is arranged.

The ottoman 40 may be suitably braced by triangular plates 61 connecting its respective riser 59 and tread 29 as illustrated in Figure 8. These should be of such dimensions as would permit the full retraction of the members 39 and 40.

Manifestly, the structure herein shown and described is capable of considerable modification, from time to time by persons skilled in the art, without departing from the spirit and intent of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a hospital-bed-height commode for hospital patients, in combination, a cabinet having a base portion extending forwardly and providing a foot rest below the top of said cabinet, an open seat hingedly arranged in the top of said cabinet and a hinged cover over said seat, an opening in said cabinet above said foot rest, means in the upper end of said cabinet under said open seat for supporting a bed pan therein, a stool slidably connected to said base portion and capable of being extended therefrom providing a step, and drawers in said cabinet adapted to open on either side thereof.

2. In a hospital-bed-height commode and bed-side table, in combination, a cabinet having a base portion projecting forwardly thereof providing a foot rest, a chamber formed in the top of said cabinet having means therein removably supporting a bed-pan, a hinged open seat covering said bed-pan and a table-top hingedly covering said seat, a plurality of drawers in said cabinet capable of slidably opening to either side thereof, and a receding foot stool supported in said base portion and capable of sliding into and out of said cabinet.

3. In a bed-side commode and cabinet-table for hospital patients, in combination, a cabinet having a hinged top and means therein for oper-

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atively supporting a bed-pan for bed-ridden patients, an open hinged seat in the top of said cabinet above said pan-supporting means and closable by said hinged top, a foot rest formed on the front of said cabinet, a stool slidably supported below said foot rest and capable of sliding into said cabinet, and a plurality of drawers in said cabinet adapted to open on either side thereof.

4. In a combination hospital bed-side commode and table, a cabinet having a hinged top and a foot rest extending forwardly thereof forming part of its base, means in the upper portion of said cabinet beneath said hinged top for supporting a hospital bed pan and a bed pan operatively arranged thereon, an open seat hingedly arranged over said bed-pan and covered by said hinged top, a foot stool supported in said base below said foot rest and slidable into said base, and a plurality of drawers in said cabinet capable of opening on either side thereof.

5. In a hospital-bed-height commode and cabinet-table for hospital patients, a cabinet having means in its upper portion adapted to support a bed-pan and a bed-pan operatively arranged thereon, an open seat arranged over said bed-pan, a hinged top covering said open seat and closing said cabinet providing a table surface, an elevated foot rest slidably associated with said cabinet forwardly thereof and capable of being retracted into said cabinet, a foot stool slidably extensible from the lower front of said cabinet below said foot rest and retractible therebeneath, and a drawer in said cabinet capable of opening on either side thereof.

6. In a combination hospital-bed-side commode and table-cabinet, a cabinet having means in the upper portion thereof for supporting a bed-pan, a bed-pan operatively supported on said means, a hinged open seat over said bed-pan and a hinged top for said cabinet closing said open seat and providing a table surface on said cabinet, extensible and retractible steps arranged on the front of said cabinet, one of said steps being slidable into the other and both being capable of sliding into said cabinet, and a drawer operatively arranged for opening on either side of said cabinet.

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No references cited.